Schemes of Uttarakhand under Forest Act

237. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes of Uttarakhand pending for approval under Forest Act;

(b) whether the above said pending schemes include schemes relating to hydel power and construction of roads; and

(c) if so, since when these schemes are pending and by when such schemes are proposed to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) A total of 155 proposals received from the State Government of Uttarakhand, under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, are pending in the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Out of these, 4 proposals relate to Hydle power and 101 proposals relate to the construction of roads.

The Central Government receives proposals from the State/Union Territory Governments seeking prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use of forest land for non-forestry purposes. The proposals are considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under the Act and the State Advisory Groups as the case may be, before being put up to the Competent Authority for decision. This is a continuous process and hence, at any point of time, some proposals always remain under consideration of the Government.

Increase of electronic waste in metro cities

†238. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government is aware of constantly increasing electronic wastes such as lead, mercury, nickel, lithium etc. of small scale industry in the major metros of the country, particularly in National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken to destroy or to dispose of such wastes by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Based on the study conducted under the guidance of the Central Pollution Control Board, Electrical and Electronic equipments are reported to be responsible for generation of a large amount of e-waste. The major quantity of electronic waste is generated in metro cities including in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, which contains mercury, led, lithium, etc.

(c) The Central Pollution Control Board has drafted Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories and the industries handling e-waste. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these Guidelines. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Ministry.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.